

Baseball Hall of Fame in Kansas City. In it, I said that Minnie Minoso would have been in the Hall of Fame but for segregation and spending years in the Pacific Coast League and the Negro Leagues when he should have been in the major leagues. It was killed in the Senate by Jim Bunning, a Senator who was also a Hall of Famer.

On Sunday, Minnie Minoso was voted into the Baseball Hall of Fame.

I took Minnie to Cuba when I went there and handed out No. 9 pins, and I handed out baseball cards to Cuban fans when I was there for the baseball game that President Obama put together. The Cuban people loved him. He was their Jackie Robinson.

On January 24, he goes in the Hall of Fame with Jim Bunning. I thank the Baseball Hall of Fame, and I thank Minnie Minoso. He has been my hero.

REMEMBERING SENATOR BOB DOLE

(Mr. MANN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MANN. Mr. Speaker, America has lost a statesman, noble war hero, and service-minded Kansan who never forgot where he came from. Senator Bob Dole died peacefully at the age of 98, having left his district, State, and this country better for the many contributions he made over 79 years of public life.

I was blessed to spend some time with Senator Dole a few weeks ago. His love for Kansas and its people were on full display in his excited curiosity about our plans for the Big First District.

He was a thoughtful, committed, and energetic champion for our Nation and our way of life in rural Kansas. He always treated others with respect and kindness, especially his fellow veterans, as he attended nearly every Honor Flight that came to Washington, D.C. He was a fierce advocate for his political views, but he was equally committed to cross-aisle friendship and comradery.

I left our time together inspired and commissioned, as Senator Dole made it clear we must never forget where we come from. He knew deep down that the heartbeat of our Nation lies in places like his hometown of Russell, Kansas. His legacy will echo into the future, and his patriotic spirit serves as a benchmark for anyone who believes that our brightest days are yet to come.

I thank Senator Dole for working tirelessly to make our world a better place. May he rest in peace.

Mr. Speaker, my prayers and gratitude for Senator Bob Dole go out to his family.

HARRISONBURG BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS CELEBRATES 25TH ANNIVERSARY

(Mr. CLINE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Boys & Girls Clubs of Harrisonburg in Rockingham County, which will celebrate its 25th anniversary on December 21.

Since its founding in 1955, this organization has grown from just one location to now more than seven throughout the region. For the past two-and-a-half decades, they have worked to ensure children in Shenandoah Valley have a safe, inclusive, and supportive environment to call home after school.

They are committed to fulfilling their mission to help mold our region's youth into productive, caring, responsible citizens through programs focused on academic success, healthy lifestyles, good character, and citizenship.

Serving more than 900 kids annually, ages 5 to 18, for the past quarter-century, the positive contribution the group has had on the valley's youth is immeasurable.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the organization on its first 25 years of success and wish them many more. Our community is forever grateful for all they do.

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NY-22 STATE FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS

(Ms. TENNEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. TENNEY. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize three New York State Section Four high school teams. This past weekend, for the first time since 2019, hundreds of players, coaches, parents, and fans from across the great State of New York returned to Syracuse University's Carrier Dome to compete for a New York State Public High School Athletic Association Football Championship.

This past Friday, the Class D, 12-win, undefeated Tioga Tigers, led by Head Coach Nick Aiello, roared to victory with a 27-0 victory over the Moriah Vikings, winning their second State championship in school history.

Saturday's games would bring more fun to New York State's 22nd District. First, the fourth-seeded Class C, 12-and-1 Blue Devils of Chenango Forks, led by Head Coach David Hogan, played a rematch of their 2019 championship game, and again beat the Schuylerville Horses, this time with a convincing 21-0 shutout victory.

And last, but certainly not least, the 13-and-1, Class B, Maine-Endwell Spartans, led by Head Coach Matt Gallagher, came back from a 12-7 halftime deficit, to outscore the Pleasantville Panthers 14-0 in the second half, winning their first State championship since 2014.

One State, 27 congressional representatives, five championship divisions, and New York State's 22nd dis-

trict took home the trophies in three of four divisions we competed in.

Congratulations to all teams from the 22nd District.

CONGRATULATING MIKE FLETCHER ON HIS RETIREMENT

(Mr. ELLZEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. ELLZEY. Mr. Speaker, I come to the House floor today to congratulate Mike Fletcher, the store director of the H-E-B in Corsicana, Texas. After 27 years, Mike did something we all hope to do one day, and that is retire.

Though not a Corsicana native, Mike has come to call Corsicana home. He grew up in Waco, and lived there until he was about 20, and then attended Texas A&M University and while attending school, started his career in the grocery industry.

What H-E-B and Mike have done for Corsicana and the surrounding community over the last 19 years cannot be captured in a 1-minute speech. But what I can say is that Mike has served his community. He kept the doors open, the shelves stocked, and the community fed during the COVID-19 pandemic and the winter storm that hit the great State of Texas.

He and his wife, Deedy, have been an integral part of Navarro County since they moved there in 2002. Mike has served on the Salvation Army board, the United Way board of Navarro County, been a member of the Rotary Club, volunteered on disaster relief teams in West, Texas, when the fertilizer plants exploded in 2013, and much more.

He might be retired from working at H-E-B, but he is not finished serving his community.

So, Mike, congratulations on your retirement and thank you for your continued dedication to Corsicana and Navarro County.

RECOGNIZING ENES KANTER FREEDOM

(Mr. FITZPATRICK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Enes Kanter Freedom.

Since being drafted third overall in the 2011 NBA draft, Mr. Freedom, a newly minted American citizen, has made our country incredibly proud.

Growing up in Turkey, Enes says he did not know what freedom was until he moved to the United States. And since then, he has used his platform to speak out against human rights atrocities in China, Turkey, and beyond. Enes uses his voice for the people around the world who are voiceless.

And because of his outspoken criticism of Turkey's authoritarian regime and inhumane treatment of political prisoners, the Turkish Government revoked Enes' passport and issued multiple warrants for his arrest, leaving

him stateless for many years. And in China, broadcasts of Enes' basketball games were banned after he criticized the Chinese Communist Party's repressive regime and their human rights abuses against the Uighurs and Tibetans.

Since facing backlash, Enes has made it his life's mission to push the boundaries of what is possible on and off the court. He understands and recognizes using his voice and the importance of it.

After waiting six long years, Mr. Speaker, last week Enes finally became a U.S. citizen, and at his citizenship ceremony, he recited the oath using his newly minted last name, Freedom. And I cannot think of a more appropriate new last name for Enes, as he embodies all that freedom means. And by changing his last name, Enes can now carry that word with him wherever he goes.

Mr. Speaker, I salute the brave work of Enes Kanter Freedom. At a time when others remain silent, he has spoken up.

I congratulate Enes on his citizenship, and this United States Congress and all of us welcome him to our American family.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

The House will resume proceedings on postponed questions at a later time.

RESPONSIBLE EDUCATION MITIGATING OPTIONS AND TECHNICAL EXTENSIONS ACT

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5545) to extend certain expiring provisions of law relating to benefits provided under Department of Veterans Affairs educational assistance programs during COVID-19 pandemic, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5545

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Responsible Education Mitigating Options and Technical Extensions Act" or the "REMOTE Act".

SEC. 2. EXTENSIONS OF CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF LAW RELATING TO BENEFITS PROVIDED UNDER DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC.

(a) EXTENSION OF STUDENT VETERAN CORONAVIRUS RESPONSE ACT OF 2020.—Section 2 of the Student Veteran Coronavirus Response Act of 2020 (Public Law 116-140; 38 U.S.C. 3031 note), as amended by section 5202(a) of the Department of Veterans Affairs Expiring Authorities Act of 2020 (Division E of Public Law 116-159), is further amended by

striking "December 21, 2021" and inserting "June 1, 2022".

(b) EXTENSION OF PERIOD FOR CONTINUATION OF DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE BENEFITS FOR CERTAIN PROGRAMS OF EDUCATION CONVERTED TO DISTANCE LEARNING BY REASON OF EMERGENCIES AND HEALTH-RELATED SITUATIONS.—Section 1(b) of Public Law 116-128 (38 U.S.C. 3001 note prec.), as amended by section 5202(b) of the Department of Veterans Affairs Expiring Authorities Act of 2020 (Division E of Public Law 116-159), is further amended by striking "December 21, 2021" and inserting "June 1, 2022".

SEC. 3. AMENDMENTS TO REQUIREMENTS FOR EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS PARTICIPATING IN THE EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.

(a) WAIVER OF VERIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT FOR CERTAIN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS.—Section 3313(1) of title 38, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

"(4) WAIVER.—The Secretary may waive the requirements of this subsection for an educational institution that the Secretary has determined uses a flat tuition and fee structure that would make the use of a second verification under this subsection unnecessary."

(b) LIMITATIONS ON AUTHORITY TO DISAPPROVE OF COURSES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (f) of section 3679 of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

(A) in paragraph (2)(B)—

(i) by inserting "except for the recruitment of foreign students residing in foreign countries who are not eligible to receive Federal student assistance" after "assistance"; and

(ii) by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

"(C) In determining whether a violation of subparagraph (B) has occurred, the State approving agency, or the Secretary when acting in the place of the State approving agency, shall construe the requirements of this paragraph in accordance with the regulations and guidance prescribed by the Secretary of Education under section 487(a)(20) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1094(a)(20))."

(B) by redesignating paragraph (7) as paragraph (8); and

(C) by inserting after paragraph (6) the following new paragraph (7):

"(7) This subsection shall not apply to an educational institution—

"(A) located in a foreign country; or

"(B) that provides to a covered individual consumer information regarding costs of the program of education (including financial aid available to such covered individual) using a form or template developed by the Secretary of Education."

(2) APPLICATION DATE.—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs may not carry out subsection (f) of section 3679 of title 38, United States Code, until August 1, 2022, except that, beginning on June 15, 2022, an educational institution may submit an application for a waiver under paragraph (5) of such subsection.

(3) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Subsection (c) of section 3696 of such title is amended—

(A) by inserting "(1)" before "An educational";

(B) by inserting "except for the recruitment of foreign students residing in foreign countries who are not eligible to receive Federal student assistance" after "assistance"; and

(C) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

"(2) In determining whether a violation of paragraph (1) has occurred, the Under Sec-

retary for Benefits shall construe the requirements of this paragraph in accordance with the regulations and guidance prescribed by the Secretary of Education under section 487(a)(20) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1094(a)(20))."

(c) EXEMPTION OF FOREIGN SCHOOLS FROM CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) INFORMATION RELATING TO TESTS.—Section 3689(c) of title 38, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

"(3) Subparagraph (G) of paragraph (1) shall not apply with respect to an educational institution located in a foreign country."

(2) EXAMINATION OF RECORDS.—Section 3690(c) of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

(A) by striking "Notwithstanding" and inserting "(1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), notwithstanding"; and

(B) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

"(2) Paragraph (1) does not apply to the records and accounts—

"(A) of an educational institution located in a foreign country; and

"(B) that pertain to an individual who is not receiving educational assistance under this chapter."

SEC. 4. PROVISION OF EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE TO STUDENTS WHO ARE "ROUNDING OUT" UNDER EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS OF DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 3680(a) of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), in the matter before subparagraph (A), by striking "in paragraph (2)" and inserting "in paragraphs (2) and (3)"; and

(2) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

"(3) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), in the case of an eligible veteran or eligible person who is pursuing a program of education on less than a half-time basis during a period that is the last semester, term, or academic period the veteran or person will be enrolled in the program of education because the veteran or person will complete the program of education at the end of that semester, term, or academic period, the Secretary may, pursuant to such regulations as the Secretary shall prescribe, provide to the veteran or person educational assistance under chapter 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, or 35 of this title or under chapter 1606 of title 10, including a monthly housing stipend described in section 3313(c) of this title, on the basis of the total number of credits or courses in which the veteran or person is enrolled, if—

"(A) the number of credits the veteran or person needs to complete the program of education is less than the number of credits that would constitute enrollment on a more than half-time basis for that last semester, term, or academic period; and

"(B) the veteran or person—

"(i) is enrolled in, or has completed, every course offered by the program of education during the last semester, term, or academic period in which the veteran or person is enrolled in the program of education; and

"(ii) enrolls in an additional course that is not required for the completion of such program of education and the enrollment in the non-required course in addition to the required course or courses in which the veteran or person is enrolled constitutes enrollment on more than a half-time basis."

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by subsection (a) shall take effect on January 1, 2022, and apply with respect to any semester, term, or academic period that begins on or after that date.